

## **Clinical or Community Partnerships**

### **University of Texas – Pan American BSN**

*McAllen Medical Center*

This partnership involves the use of hospital-employed faculty preceptors. The hospital has allowed MSN, as well as BSN-prepared employees to function as preceptors to a group(s) of BSN students. Although the preceptors are not paid extra by the hospital, these preceptors are allowed to use one work day a week to precept students. Most of the time, these preceptors are not paid by the university either, but are encouraged to assist the BSN nursing program by the hospital.

**Approximate cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:** \$17,000 per year

**Grant monies used:** yes, THECB Nursing Shortage Reduction funds were used this past year to pay for preceptors

**Expected benefits from partnership:**

- school can maintain enrollment and comply with faculty to student ratios
- able to meet the needs of the student for clinical practice by the use of preceptors
- preceptors have hands-on experience in the clinical area and can serve as expert mentors

**Challenges from partnership:**

- preceptors are not always able to grade careplans and student papers according to program standards
- faculty preceptors are often in management positions and have to find time to complete their own work and fulfill obligations to the school
- difficulty for the UTPA faculty to coordinate efforts with the hospital faculty

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## **Partnerships with Other Nursing Programs**

### **University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Flex LVN to BSN**

*University of Texas at Brownsville*

*University of Texas at El Paso*

*University of Texas Pan American*

UTHSC-SA is exploring a collaborative effort to have the other UT schools assume their LVN to BSN curriculum at their campuses to expand capacity and geographic spread for admission of LVN students to enter professional nursing. The other campuses would work with UTHSC-SA on the nursing curriculum, eventually assuming the UTHSC-SA model on their campuses, and provide clinical supervision. Additionally, since the other schools are academic campuses, they could coordinate offering the non-nursing pre-requisite courses that applicants need in order to be eligible for the nursing program.

#### **Approximate cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:**

total cost is being calculated now during the planning phase, whereas the cost for the planning phase was \$50,000 for the first year

**Grant monies used:** yes, UT Borderplex dollars

#### **Expected benefits from partnership:**

- coordination across four campuses with very different cultures and academic settings

#### **Challenges from partnership:**

- none identified

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